**Export growth target**

*432. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export growth target has been slashed by 12 per cent for the current fiscal year as against the previously achieved growth rate of 19.83 per cent in 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the country's targeted International share (in terms of percentage) for 2000-2001;

(d) the share (in terms of percentage) of "ores and minerals" in India's total export in 2000-2001 and the projection for the current year; and

(e) whether any study is made to qualify the improvement in export growth rate by exporting value added products of these "ores and minerals" instead of exporting them as it is?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MAR AN): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the global economic slowdown and events of September 11 and their aftermath, the annual export target was scaled down to 3% from 12% which was originally envisaged at the beginning of 2001-02. Export growth rate achieved during 2000-01 was 21% which was the highest growth rate in the last decade.

(c) As per WTO Report, share of India's merchandise export is 0.67% during 2000.

(d) As per the data available from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta, the export of ores and minerals accounted for 2.61% share in total export during 2000-01. Export of minerals and ores sector is projected to be around US $ 1497 million in the financial year (2001-2002).

(e) No formal study has been conducted specifically on the issue of improving export growth rate by exporting value added products rather than ores and minerals in their raw form.